

### **Abstract**

Disclosed are treatment agents and methods of treatment utilizing the agents directed toward diseases in which the disease causing pathogen includes  $\alpha 6\beta 1$  integrin receptors and/or  $\alpha 6\beta 4$  integrin receptors on the surface of the pathogen. In one embodiment, the disease can be breast cancer. The therapeutic agents disclosed include a polypeptide comprising at least a portion of the G domain of the laminin-5  $\alpha 3$  chain that has been shown to bind  $\alpha 6\beta 1$  integrin receptors and  $\alpha 6\beta 4$  integrin receptors. In one embodiment, the therapeutic agents can be fused or chimeric materials in which the laminin-5  $\alpha 3$  chain polypeptide has been chemically bound to another material that can be useful in the destruction or neutralization of the pathogen.